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The Indian Said "No!" But I Got the Blanket

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Short Cuts to Clothes Care



In the schedule of a college girl, there isn't much time allowed for taking care of clothes.

When I visited the dormitory to see how they do it at Iowa State, Margaret Dawartz said, "I like to wash and iron within an hour, so I wash blouses, slips, and handkerchiefs and wrap them in towels. In this way I can iron them a few minutes later instead of waiting a long while and making two separate processes of it."

Students I talked to agreed that dirty, spotty clothes never should be worn. If garments can't be washed with soap, they can be sent to a cleaner or cleaned in gasoline. Many formulas for various stain removers are on the market.

"Before washing my sweater, I lay it on a paper and draw a line around it with a pencil," said Marjorie Hipple. "Before it dries, I stretch the sweater until it fits the pattern."

A great many women seemed to find that washing hose immediately after each wearing paid.

Marian Rahn presses her formal jacket of metallic cloth by placing paper on top of the cloth and using a warm iron. She said, "I take a few minutes to press each dress as I wear it rather than a long time to press several dresses at once."

WRINKLES are readily noticed and detract from an otherwise nice appearance. A great deal of information on how to press different materials is obtainable at libraries, in magazines, and at stores from which your purchase is made.

Maybelle Thomson in reducing the necessity of some pressing by hanging clothes on hangers as soon as she takes them off. Hangers should slope at the shoulders in the same way that the garments slope. Bee Stearns said that she tied tissue paper on the end of her hangers to prevent creasing and marking on dresses.

Joe Sherwood suggested that wrinkles can be taken out of velvet dresses by hanging them near steam.

Natalie Kathan bends the lower horizontal wire up into a curve and pins skirts on this. Then the skirt won't slip to the corner of the hangar. Jean Austin pins the plaits of skirts and dresses in place when she hangs them up.

by RUTH KUNERTH

The more than-ever popular knits are a problem to many this year. They should be stretched, rolled, and laid in a drawer. Knitted skirts should be turned a few inches to one side when worn under a coat in the estimation of Marjorie Hafele. This keeps it from stretching a great deal in any one place. (Don't forget to turn the skirt back when you take off your coat.)

Elizabeth Stange said, "I try to mend everything just as soon as I find a tear or hole." She believes that "a stitch in time saves nine." Frequently buttons and snaps come off, and a safety pin is used. Besides taking longer to fasten, pinning often causes holes and tears. These take precious time to repair. If there will be great strain on the button, as on a coat, the outside button should be faced with a small button or piece of cloth on the inside

lining.

You can have beautiful clothes but lint and dust will make them look cheap. Students agree on this. Clothes should be brushed soon after the garments are worn. A brush that suits the material should be used. For heavy materials, a whisk broom is suitable and for finer materials, a clothes brush is best. A damp sponge or cloth will remove lint.

Betty Norris suggests that paper dress bags from the cleaner be used. Clothes coverings can be made easily and are good protectors from dust. When closets are not high and dresses touch the floor, paper can be placed on the floor, and changed often.

You can make huge cotton collars that come to your waist and fall over your shoulders to protect your clothes from make-up and hair when you are dressing.

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The Indian Said "No!" But I Got the Blanket

by Claire J. Mueller

BUYING Chameo blankets from the Navajo Indians is like pulling teeth from a horse, unless you know how to go about it.

The Indians have learned that the white men want their blankets and so they do every possible thing to increase the price—even making up fantastic stories to go with the blankets.

I discovered that the only sure way to get a really good, genuine Chameo blanket is to go out to the Indians who are not often visited by traders and tourists. Here it is possible to get the real thing and know the story behind it.

Most of the old blankets have been woven by the men, either the grandfather or great-grandfather of the present generation. Blankets with this history behind them are naturally valued by the owners.

I found it a poor policy to let the Indians know that I wished to buy a blanket. It was much better to show an interest in other things they had, such as—plants, decorations, rugs on the floor, laces—and, lastly, the blankets.

The Indian may be hesitant in showing his blankets. Usually I had to hint very strongly three or four times before he got out his best and oldest blankets and rugs.

After I had made up my mind as to which one I wanted, I offered the owner a low price, which was some where around \$5 or \$6 or lower, and watched the reaction.

As a rule the Indian did not accept this low price and said that the blanket was not for sale. However, a raise of a few dollars was enough to keep him interested.

When certain that I had the Indian convinced that I desired the blanket, I turned my attention to another. Soon I was to be the owner of the original blanket I had desired, for after the Indian had been tempted to sell one of his blankets it is not so easy to induce him to sell a different one. In this manner I became the owner of a genuine Chameo blanket at a price somewhat lower than the traders demanded.

A point of interest in this method of acquiring a Chameo blanket is that it requires a good deal of hand gestures and the use of an interpreter.